

of fan support, not just from residents of Delaware, but also from people around the nation and the world. They were flooded with letters and emails from states across the nation, including California, and countries as far away as Germany. Coach Mascelli also said his players received an education beyond baseball. They all handled their celebrity status with the public and the media with a maturity well beyond their years. The team's objective at the Little League World Series was to represent the state of Delaware with class and dignity. We are proud to say that the Naamans team accomplished just that.

Today, we congratulate the Naamans Little League and coaches Mascelli, Lopes, and Waters. They accomplished something that no other Delaware team has done, and they made each one of us proud.●

TRIBUTE TO HUGH GREGG

● Mr. SUNUNU. Mr. President, on Wednesday I introduced S. 1692, to designate the U.S. Post Office Building at 38 Spring Street in Nashua, NH as the "Hugh Gregg Post Office Building," and honor one of our State's most beloved and hardest working public servants.

On September 24, New Hampshire lost one of its great citizens, statesmen, and historians when Hugh Gregg passed away at the age of 85. Hugh Gregg was an alderman and then mayor of his hometown of Nashua, leading the city through a time of economic transition by bringing prosperity back to the mill yards lining the Merrimack River in Nashua after they had gone in silent in the 1940s. He was elected the youngest Governor in New Hampshire history at the age of 34, then returned to the private sector to pursue successful ventures as a lawyer and businessman. It was at this point that Hugh Gregg began to evolve into one of the most important figures in New Hampshire history.

Hugh Gregg's love of New Hampshire and politics inspired his passion for preserving, and often-times defending New Hampshire's first-in-the-nation Presidential primary. He was involved formally and informally with many campaigns over the years, and was a virtual encyclopedia of knowledge regarding the history of New Hampshire's unique role in electing Presidents of the United States. In 1998 Hugh Gregg, who is often referred to as the Godfather of the New Hampshire primary, help found the New Hampshire Political Library, which was and is the only nonpartisan, nonprofit institution in the State dedicated to politics and the primary.

Hugh Gregg held high the New Hampshire values of honesty, frankness and caring throughout a life of political, business, and community leadership. I was just one among his countless friends who turned to him for his advice and perspective over the years, re-

ceiving sound counsel often accompanied by a touch of dry wit. My thoughts and prayers go out to Hugh Gregg's wife, Cay, his son and our colleague in the Senate, JUDD GREGG, and the entire Gregg family. My family and I, and all of New Hampshire will miss Hugh Gregg very much.

Mr. President, naming the Post Office in Nashua for Hugh Gregg is an appropriate way to remember the life of one of New Hampshire's most enduring and endearing personalities. I ask that my colleagues in the House and Senate move quickly to pass this legislation in his honor.●

MAJOR GENERAL ARNOLD L. PUNARO

● Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, on October 14, 2003, at Marine Barracks 8th & I, Washington, D.C.—the oldest post in the U.S. Marine Corps—GEN James L. Jones, Supreme Allied Commander Europe and Commander, U.S. European Command and the former Commandant of the Marine Corps will officiate at a retirement ceremony for MG Arnold L. Punaro. GEN Punaro is completing 35 years of superlative commissioned service in the United States Marine Corps and is someone I have worked with both in and out of uniform for over 25 of these years. Contingent on the Senate schedule, I intend to be present and join his many friends in wishing him and his family fair winds and following seas.

Many here will recall Arnold's outstanding 24 year career in the U.S. Senate working for our former Senate Armed Services Committee Chairman, Senator Sam Nunn. He started as an intern in Senator Nunn's office in 1973, and rose to become Staff Director of the Senate Armed Services Committee. During that 24-year period he was involved in every major national security decision and set a standard of excellence and leadership that few others achieve. While he came from Georgia, I am proud to say he has been a Virginia resident for 30 years and someone with whom I worked closely during his years in the Senate.

Simultaneously, he was engaged in a highly successful career in the United States Marine Corps which he entered out of college in 1968. At the peak of the draft, he was a volunteer into a tough outfit that I know well. He was an infantry platoon commander in combat in Vietnam where he was wounded in battle and decorated for heroism.

Following active duty service, he went into the reserves in 1973. Over the next 30 years he would serve with distinction in both command and staff billets to include mobilization for Desert Shield/Desert Storm in 1990. He also was mobilized in 1993 to serve as the Commander of Joint Task Force Provide Promise, Forward, in command of all U.S. troops serving in the former Yugoslavia and in Macedonia. His command was part of a multi-national

force and provided much needed stability in that region.

He was promoted to general officer in 1994, and served as Commanding General of several major commands for 5 of his 9 years as a general. Just as he was the longest serving Staff Director of the Senate Armed Services Committee, he had the longest tenure as Commanding General of the 4th Marine Division—one of the legendary divisions of World War II Iwo Jima fame. Today this division has over 20,500 Marines and Sailors located in 105 cities and 38 states. The vast majority fought in Operation Iraqi Freedom. Under his leadership, the 4th Division's warfighting readiness was significantly improved as was demonstrated in Iraq and, upon his departure, he turned over an organization that had achieved the highest readiness ratings that DoD provides.

That does not surprise any of us who worked closely with him over the years because he was known as someone who always had a vision and knew how to get things done—both strategically and tactically. He was direct, forceful, and always focused on reaching the goal.

He was most recently mobilized—for the third time in his reserve career—for Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom as both the U.S. Marine Corps Director of Reserve Affairs and a Special Assistant to the Supreme Allied Commander, Europe. During this period the U.S. Marine Corps had the largest call-up of its reserves in their history with a 99 percent show-rate, a rapid deployment to their operational assignments faster than required and great success in combat operations. His experience and leadership were crucial in both the mobilization and demobilization phase.

During this same period his oldest son, Joe Punaro, a 2LT in the Marine Corps was serving as a platoon commander in Iraq in the same Regiment his father served in Vietnam—the 7th Marines of the 1st Marine Division. Joe worked for me as an intern in 2000 and I had the pleasure of visiting with him in Kuwait prior to the invasion. Arnold's daughter Julie is student teaching at Thomas Jefferson High School; daughter Meg is at Mary Washington College and plays on their field hockey team which is in the top ten, and son Daniel is a senior in high school and an aspiring college lacrosse player. His wife Jan has kept them all on this highly successful course.

MG Punaro has now completed two outstanding careers—one in the Senate and one in the Marine Corps. He is a superb leader, thinker and doer. He is now on his third career as a senior executive for a key Virginia company.

On behalf of the members of the Senate Armed Services Committee and Staff as well as the Senate, I want to extend our deepest congratulations and the gratitude of a grateful Nation.●